## CLAIMS:

## What is claimed is:

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t. A buffer management system comprising:

a buffer pool further comprised of an amount of fixed storage and an amount of virtual storage; and

a buffer manager for dynamically varying the amount of fixed storage and the amount of virtual storage based on a comparison of present usage of the amount of fixed storage and the amount of virtual storage to target values.

- 2. The buffer management system of claim 1, wherein the buffer pool is further comprised of fixed, pageable and released logical partitions and each of the buffers in the buffer pool resides in a state comprising one of said logical partitions.
- 3. The buffer management system according to claim 2, further comprising a buffer index table further comprising buffer index elements wherein each entry represents one buffer in the buffer pool.
- 4. The buffer management system according to claim 3, wherein said buffer index elements further comprise a buffer state information field which represents the logical partition where the buffer resides and a pointer field to the next available buffer in the same state within the buffer pool.

supports both fixed and virtual storage comprising:

/ a buffer pool comprising a plurality of buffers logically partitioned into three states, fixed, pageable and released, said buffer pool further comprising both fixed and virtual storage; and

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a buffer manager further comprising system target usage values for said fixed
and virtual storage and a comparitor for comparing actual fixed and virtual usage
values to target usage values, wherein said buffer manager varies the amount of fixed
and virtual storage used by moving buffers in said buffer pool between said logical
partitions.

- 6. The buffer management system according to claim 5, further comprising a a buffer index table further comprising buffer index elements wherein each entry represents one buffer in the buffer pool.
- 7. The buffer management system according to claim 6, wherein said buffer index elements further comprise a buffer state information field which represents the logical partition where the buffer resides and a pointer field to the next available buffer in the same state within the buffer pool.
- 8. An article of manufacture comprising:

  a buffer pool further comprised of an amount of fixed storage and an amount of virtual storage; and

a buffer manager for dynamically varying the amount of fixed storage and the amount of virtual storage based on a comparison of present usage of the amount of fixed storage and the amount of vitual storage to target values.

- 9. The article of manufacture according to claim 8, wherein the buffer pool is further comprised of fixed, pageable and released logical partitions.
- 10. The article of manufacture according to slaim 9, further comprising a buffer index table further comprising buffer index elements wherein each entry represents one buffer in the buffer pool.

11. The article of manufacture according to claim 10, wherein said buffer index elements further comprise a buffer state information field which represents the logical partition where the buffer resides and a pointer field to the next available buffer in the same state within the buffer pool.

both fixed and virtual storage comprising:

a buffer pool comprising a plurality of buffers logically partitioned into three states, fixed, pageable and released, said buffer pool futher comprising both fixed and virtual storage; and

a buffer manager further comprising system target usage values for said fixed and virtual storage and a comparitor for comparing actual fixed and virtual usage values to target usage values, wherein said buffer manager varies the amount of fixed and virtual storage used by moving buffers in said buffer pool between said logical partitions.

- 13. The article of manufacture according to claim 12, further comprising a a buffer index table further comprising buffer index elements wherein each entry represents one buffer in within the buffer pool.
- 14. The article of manufacture according to claim 13, wherein said buffer index elements further comprise a buffer state information field which represents the logical partition where the buffer resides and a pointer field to the next available buffer in the same state in within the buffer pool.

